

Farewell Message from the EMSIP Chief

My colleagues and friends, a great philosopher once said: “Yesterday is History, Tomorrow is a Mystery, and Today is a Present”. A gift to us all to start planning for the mystery that awaits us as we follow our desires into the future.



Well, Donna is planning for her desires into the future. After 37 years of being involved with the Hawai‘i EMS System and 25 years at the Department of Health EMS Office, it is time to smell the flowers. I will be retiring at the end of September.

I will miss all of you because you have been my inspiration and compassion to address the challenges for improving the EMS system and the quality of pre-hospital medical care in our communities statewide. My inspiration was instilled by a wonderful person, Dr. Livingston Wong. His foresight and vision, for which I am very grateful, has sustained me over the years.

When I think of accomplishments, I like to think that integrating injury prevention as part of the EMS System is the major accomplishment. Let’s face it, everyone in EMS is affected by the tragedies witnessed on a daily basis. The real tragedy is that many of the deaths and injuries responded to by EMS were preventable. In EMS, you do your very best to treat the effects of these injuries, so isn’t it time you treated the *cause* as well? Many of you have embraced injury prevention into your lives in collaboration with other injury prevention advocates. You have found that by leading community efforts to prevent injuries, you are gaining the benefits of a heightened level of positive public visibility and support. More importantly, you are saving lives and reducing unnecessary injuries.

Thank you for the memories and your unwavering support over all these years.

God bless you all,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Maiava".

Donna Maiava, Chief
Emergency Medical Services
and Injury Prevention



KIPC Korner

New Head of KIPC is Off to a Fast Start

Welcome to Su Yates, the new Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition/SAFE KIDS Hawai‘i (KIPC) Coordinator. Although new to the position, she is already off and running to keep Hawai‘i’s keiki safe.

Under Su’s direction, the Hawai‘i chapter of the national SAFE KIDS organization participated in the annual SAFE KIDS event on May 14. Sponsored by State Farm Insurance and held at the Kaiser Permanente new Waipi‘o building, the day was filled with fun, education, and treats for youngsters. Over 100 children benefited from the guidance provided by American Medical Response, the Honolulu Fire Department, the Coast Guard, and, of course, KIPC’s own inimitable Child Passenger Safety Seat inspections and bike helmets giveaway. A total of 34 car seat inspections were conducted – only two of the participants had installed their seats correctly, which says a lot about the need for this service.

The popular attraction was the bike helmet station. Not only were 39 helmets fitted and given away, there were an ample number of volunteers courtesy of Think First, the KIPC Board of Directors, and volunteers like Lina Girl of KCCN. Dr. Kenn Saruwatari, a KIPC Board member, made a memorable contribution by figuring a new way to more accurately assess the size of the child’s head so helmets fit better. It was a grand day, not only because so many people were helped, but also because so many came together to volunteer.

New Safety Checklist Available

NEWS FLASH! The long-awaited KIPC safety checklist with age appropriate tips is now in distribution. Numerous prevention-minded KIPC partners contributed their expertise. Based on the concept of protecting children in order to pre-



vent injuries, the brochure is chock full of valuable information. Adults need to be mindful of what a child can or cannot do at different stages in their lives and provide an appropriate safety net for the child. Based on the belief that most parents want to do right by their child, the checklist provides useful tips for each age category in order to assure protection, not neglect – the other end of the spectrum.

Have a safe summer.

Submitted by Injury Prevention and Control Program, State Department of Health for Su Yates, MPH, Keiki Injury Prevention Coordinator/SAFE KIDS Hawai'i Coordinator.



American Medical Response, KIPC, and the Honolulu Fire Department were just a few of the state's injury prevention champions who volunteered their time to keep our island keiki safe.

Answering the Call News from Around the Islands...



After immersing themselves in drafting and submitting written testimony on behalf of the booster seat and graduated driver's licensing (GDL) bills, **Hawai'i County Fire Department's EMS Division's Scotty Paiva, AMR-Kaua'i's Zach Octavio, AMR-Maui's Curt Morimoto, and Maui Police Captain Chuck Hirata** saw their concerted efforts come to fruition. The GDL passed and was signed into law by Lt. Governor James "Duke" Aiona. The booster seat bill will be on the agenda again next year, so all you injury prevention advocates out there, be ready to get involved in legislative efforts to make your communities safer for our keiki.

Kaua'i

AMR-Kaua'i's Zach Octavio recounts that he is rallying the troops to pull together another CPS certification class, with possible candidates recruited from Kaua'i PD and Family Support Services. **Danny Sagadraca**, Kaua'i's Injury Prevention Coordinator, researched and received additional funding to purchase updated injury prevention work books that he utilizes during his visits to Kaua'i elementary schools.

Maui

The end of July marks another four-day NHTSA certified CPS training for MFD recruits, reports **AMR-Maui's Curt Morimoto**. CPS check-ups, held in conjunction with Safe Communities of Maui, Inc., continue on a regularly scheduled basis. Maui County EMS Injury Prevention Coordinator **Christian Conradt** is helping to plan a December 2005 chemical dependency (alcohol and drugs) conference aimed at providers. He continues such efforts in collaboration with the Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking in Maui County.

Hawai'i

The "Shattered Dreams" project, designed to curb teen drinking and driving (see Cover Story, Spring 2003 newsletter), was brought to Pahoehoe High School in April, reports **HCFD EMS Battalion Chief Scotty Paiva**. Funded by a DOT Safe Communities grant, the two day program was a rousing success. The project received Island wide recognition, as well as making the front page of the Hawai'i Tribune Herald. Spearheaded by **FF/EMT Keola Payao**, HCFD participation consisted of an engine unit staffed by **FEO Ty Medeiros, FF/EMT Russell Lee, FF/EMT Justin Kouchi** and **FF/EMT Gabriel Sasaki**, a ground medic unit staffed by **FF/MICT Tracy Brennan, FEO Joseph Farias**, and **FF/EMT Shane Paulos**, and Chopper 2, staffed by **FF/MICT Michael Grace, FF/EMT Stacy Domingo**, and **Pilot Kalani Ching**. **Captain Craig Nagamine** was the Acting Assistant Chief and served as the Incident Commander. Other personnel not directly involved with the project but who assisted with the landing of chopper 2 were **Acting Captain Chris Mantz** and **Acting FEO Howard Hose**.

O'ahu

EMS Week 2005 was a gratifying week for the City of County of Honolulu EMS Division, reports **Krista Hopkins Cole, EMS Injury Prevention Coordinator**. In addition to events reported in this issue's cover story, a blessing ceremony was held for the new Nanakuli EMS ambulance unit that now offers emergency medical services to residents on the Leeward Coast. Mr. and Mrs. Takeo Shiraki, parents of the late Mandy Shiraki, former Field Operations Supervisor, were in attendance.

The week ended with an afternoon barbeque at Ala Moana Beach Park, held in honor of the work paramedics and emergency medical technicians do every day. Special thanks to **Bobby Pedro, Field Operation Supervisor, Danny Agsalog, Senior Advisor**, and **Ocean Safety and Lifeguard Services' Jimmy Barros, Injury Prevention Coordinator** and **Ralph Goto, Administrator**, for their assistance with this event.



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Ready, Responsive, Reliable

That was the theme for EMS Week 2005 and it accurately describes YOU, Hawai'i's Emergency Medical Service organizations.

During the galvanizing week, politicians and community leaders came together on O'ahu to recognize the outstanding service of paramedics and emergency medical technicians, EMS volunteers served the community and raised awareness about the many faces of EMS, and reporters produced print and television stories about EMS, 9-1-1, and the importance of yielding to ambulances.

Excitement ran high as City officials kicked off the observance of EMS Week on May 6th with a blessing of a new ambulance and two disaster response trailers, generously donated to the Honolulu Emergency Services Department by Pearlridge Center. Mayor Mufi Hannemann and Lt. Governor Duke Aiona participated in the event and attested to the services EMS personnel provide to residents and visitors of O'ahu.

Following the blessing, Mayor Mufi Hannemann proclaimed May 15-21 National EMS Week. The mayor also

recognized EMS Chief Patricia J. Dukes as the first female chief of a major metropolitan emergency medical service in the United States. She is also the first woman to be chief of a public safety agency in Hawai'i.

EMS personnel and injury prevention advocates staffed an ambulance display May 16 - 20 in front of Honolulu Hale. Ray Franco, MECS I, Shirley Ann Borrello, EMT II, Darin Ahlan, MECS I, Pat Jones, Field Operation Supervisor, and Colin Wong, MECS II shared information with visitors about EMS and its involvement within the community, opened the ambulance for exploring, delivered presentations to preschool students, and offered free blood pressure checks.

Similar events, proclamations, and celebrations recognizing EMS' extraordinary efforts were held across the state. EMS statewide has always achieved and maintained high standards and goals when it comes to serving our island communities. From injury prevention, to pre-hospital triage, field treatment, and critical care transport, EMS providers in Hawai'i live up to being Ready, Responsive, Reliable. Congratulations, all!

LEFT: With the help of Paramedic Colin Wong and Chief Patty Dukes, Dr. Libby Char, Director of the C&C of Honolulu's EMS Division, is in good hands during a blood pressure demo.

BELOW: EMS and injury prevention advocates display their pride at the Mayor's EMS Week proclamation ceremony.

